The House reassembled after lunch at one minute past two of the Clock,

The Vice-Chairman *(Shri Suresh Pachouri)* in the Chair.

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## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

### Deposits with Commercial Banks

*2. SHRI CO. POULOSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sharp decline in deposits with the scheduled commercial banks;

(b) whether the fall in deposits is direct impact of recent decision to cut down the interest rates on deposits; and

(c) if so, whether the Government would reconsider the interest structure in these banks in order to attract more deposits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir. Deposits of scheduled commercial banks have not recorded any decline. On the contrary, deposits of scheduled commercial banks during the year 2001-2002 have increased from Rs.9,62,618 crore as on March 23, 2001 to Rs. 10,78,971 crore as on February 8, 2002.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

### VRS for associate Banks of SBI

3. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various employees of the associated banks of the State Bank of India who have submitted

their applications for VRS on 31st March, 2001, have not been considered as 10 per cent of the staff strength despite clear instructions issued by Government in this regard;

(b) if so, the details of such employees whose applications have not been considered by the banks, bank-wise and region-wise;

(c) by when the remaining applications are likely to be considered in view of the instructions; and

(d) by when VRS policy is likely to be opened again for the employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) was designed with the objective of rightsizing the manpower of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) without affecting their functioning adversely. Banks were advised that before introduction of VRS, they thould prepare Manpower Plans to assess the exact requirement of manpower in different categories and to decide the number of employees that could be granted VRS. No percentage was fixed with regard to the number of applications to be accepted by PSBs under the Scheme. Bank managements were required to accept/reject the applications depending upon their needs. The main reasons for rejection of applications were (i) ineligibility as per conditions of the Scheme and (ii) applications in excess of the assessed surplus. Out of 10,714 applications received by the Associate Banks of SBI, 1087 applications were subsequently withdrawn. 7314 applications were accepted which account for around 9% of the total staff strength of these banks. All the applications received by the Banks have been considered by them and appropriate decision taken thereon. Bank-wise available details of applications rejected is given in the Statement. (See below).

(d) At present there is no proposal for re-opening the VRS.

**Statement**

*Details of employees whose applications were not accepted under Voluntary Retirement Scheme*

| Name of the Bank | Name of the Zone | No.of Applications Rejected |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| State Bank of | Jodhpur | 86 |
| Bikaner & Jaipur | Bikaner | 93 |
| | Udaipur | 86 |
| | Jaipur | 116 |
| | Delhi | 63 |
| | Mumbai | 46 |
| | Head Office | 53 |
| | TOTAL: | 543 |
| State Bank of | Aurangabad | 73 |
| Hyderabad | Hyderabad | 174 |
| | Secunderabad | 154 |
| | Warangal | 53 |
| | Vizhag | 21 |
| | Mumbai | 63 |
| | Gulbarga | 71 |
| | Head Office | 148 |
| | TOTAL: | 757 |
| State Bank of | Bhopal | 75 |
| Indore | Indore | 203 |
| | Mumbai | 46 |
| | Head Office | 41 |
| | TOTAL: | 365 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|
| State Bank of Mysore | Bangalore | 70 |
| | Central | 56 |
| | Mysore Hubli | 35 |
| | Head Office | 34 |
| | | 31 |
| | TOTAL: | 226 |
| State Bank of Patiala | Delhi | 50 |
| | Bathinda | 14 |
| | Haryana | 37 |
| | Patiala | 56 |
| | Mumbai | 7 |
| | Jalandhar | 49 |
| | Chandigarh | 28 |
| | Head Office | 33 |
| | TOTAL: | 274 |
| State Bank of Saurashtra | Ahmcdabad | 35 |
| | Bhavnagar | 15 |
| | Rajkot Head | 31 |
| | Office | 26 |
| | TOTAL: | 107 |
| State Bank of Travancore | Trivandrum | 15 |
| | (Including Head Office) | 3 |
| | Kottayam | 9 |
| | Ernakulam | 8 |
| | Kozhikodc | 5 |
| | Chennai | |
| | TOTAL: | 40 |